

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 STATE 137712
ORIGIN ACDA-12

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-14 ISO-00 PA-02 INR-10 AF-10
ARA-14 EA-12 NEA-11 OES-07 /105 R

DRAFTED BY ACDA/PA:JMPOPE:PC
APPROVED BY ACDA/PA:JMPOPE
-----028851 312209Z /70

P 312028Z MAY 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO USMISSION GENEVA PRIORITY
INFO ALL NATO CAPITALS PRIORITY
USDEL MBFR VIENNA
AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY SOFIA PRIORITY
USMISSION USNATO PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY BELGRADE PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY BERLIN PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY HELSINKI PRIORITY

UNCLAS STATE 137712

USSALTTWO/CTB

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PARM, SOPN

SUBJECT: MAY 31 ROUNDUP: PRESS ITEMS OF ARMS CONTROL
INTEREST

LONDON FOR AMB/EX, SOFIA FOR AMBASSADOR

1. WALL STREET JOURNAL CHARGED THAT "SENSIBLE PLANS" FOR
NATO THEATER NUCLEAR FORCE MODERNIZATION "RUN FOURSQUARE
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 STATE 137712

INTO AMERICAN CONCESSIONS DURING STRATEGIC ARMS NEGOTIATIONS
WITH SOVIET UNION." NATO, JOURNAL SAID, NEEDS ADDITIONAL
LONG-RANGE CAPABILITY, AND CRUISE MISSILES ARE "AN ATTRAC-
TIVE CHOICE" TO FILL THIS "CRUCIAL GAP IN NATO DEFENSE."
BUT, EDITORIAL POINTED OUT, U.S. HAS AGREED IN SALT TO LIMIT
CRUISE MISSILE RANGES TO 600 KILOMETERS, EXCEPT WHEN
DEPLOYED ON LIMITED NUMBER OF HEAVY BOMBERS. LIMITS ON

GROUND AND SEA-LAUNCHED CRUISE MISSILES "OSTENSIBLY EXPIRE IN THREE YEARS," EDITORIAL ADDED, "BUT IF AGREEMENT IS WORTH SIGNING NOW IT WILL BE WORTH RENEWING THEN." JOURNAL SAID LIMITS ON AIR-LAUNCHED CRUISE MISSILES ON MEDIUM BOMBERS, "ONLY KIND OUR ALLIES HAVE," ARE PART OF PERMANENT TREATY. IF SALT IS APPROVED, U.S. FORCES IN NATO WOULD BE PROHIBITED FROM DEPLOYING KIND OF CRUISE MISSILES THAT WOULD THREATEN WARSAW PACT SECOND-ECHELON ARMIES IN POLAND AND THIRD-ECHELON ARMIES IN WESTERN MILITARY DISTRICT OF SOVIET UNION. "FURTHER, DRAFT TREATY HAS 'NONCIRCUMVENTION' CLAUSE, WHICH PRESUMABLY MEANS SOMETHING. U.S. HAS WON ACQUIESCENCE TO AGREEMENT FROM ITS ALLIES BY ASSURING THEM CLAUSE DOES NOT PREVENT OUR TRANSFERRING CRUISE MISSILE TECHNOLOGY TO THEM. BUT IT STRAINS CREDULITY TO ENVISION U.S. TEMPTING SOVIET PATIENCE BY GIVING NATO TECHNOLOGY TO DEVELOP MISSILES THAT EXCEED 600 KILOMETER LIMIT....SALT ONE WAS ABOUT STOPPING U.S. ABM; SALT TWO IS ABOUT EVISCERATING CREDIBLE DEFENSE FOR NATO....UNUTTERED TRUTH IS THAT MR. CARTER WILL HAVE TO CHOOSE: HE CANNOT HAVE SALT AND NATO TOO."

2. NEW YORK TIMES SAID "MOST STRIKING CONCLUSION" OF STILL-SECRET 150-PAGE COMPREHENSIVE NATO STUDY OF TRENDS IN SOVIET BEHAVIOR IS THAT WHILE SOVIET UNION HAS EMERGED AS MILITARY SUPERPOWER, ITS GROWING ECONOMIC WEAKNESSES WILL CREATE DILEMMA FOR MOSCOW'S LEADERSHIP IN 1980'S. THESE UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 STATE 137712

PROBLEMS, REPORT CONTENDS, COULD PROVIDE MORE POWERFUL ECONOMIES OF WEST WITH NEW OPPORTUNITIES FOR INFLUENCING SOVIET BEHAVIOR. "REPORT SAYS SOVIET UNION HAS ACCEPTED PARITY WITH U.S. IN STRATEGIC NUCLEAR ARMS BUT IS STILL UNWILLING TO ACCEPT EQUALITY WITH NATO IN TACTICAL NUCLEAR AND CONVENTIONAL FORCES IN EUROPE. THUS, ALTHOUGH SOVIET ECONOMIC GROWTH IS ALMOST CERTAIN TO DECLINE IN 1980'S BECAUSE OF SHORTAGES OF RESOURCES AND LABOR, SOVIET UNION IS NOT EXPECTED TO REDUCE DEFENSE SPENDING."

3. U.S. NEWS AND WORLD REPORT (JUNE 5) PUBLISHED INTERVIEW WITH GENERAL HAIG, SUPREME ALLIED COMMANDER IN EUROPE, WHO SAID NATO DETERRENT "IS STILL VIABLE, IT'S STILL HEALTHY." UNLESS WEST APPLIES MORE RESOURCES WITH GREATER EFFICIENCY, "THEN IN EARLY '80'S THAT DETERRENT WILL BEGIN TO LOSE ITS VIABILITY," HAIG SAID, ADDING, "FOR TIME BEING, HOWEVER, LIKELIHOOD OF CONFLICT IN CENTRAL REGION OF EUROPE IS NOT HIGH BECAUSE DETERRENT IS STILL VIABLE. IMMEDIATE DANGER STEMS FROM AMBIVALENT, AMBIGUOUS SITUATIONS WHICH OCCUR ON FLANKS OF NATO AND PERIPHERAL AREAS--SUCH AS MIDDLE EAST AND AFRICA." IN AN INTERDEPENDENT, SHRINKING WORLD, HAIG EMPHASIZED, NATO MEMBERS MUST COLLECTIVELY FACE UP TO THESE

CHALLENGES AND WORK TOGETHER TO MEET THEM. HAIG SAID HE DOES NOT VIEW AVAILABILITY OR LACK OF AVAILABILITY OF NEUTRON WEAPONS "AS VERY SIGNIFICANT FACTOR" IN BALANCE OF THEATER NUCLEAR SYSTEMS, AND THAT HE DOESN'T REJECT CRUISE OPTION. "TODAY, CRUISE APPEARS TO BE VERY ATTRACTIVE COUNTER BOTH TO SS-20 AND TO OTHER ONGOING SOVIET IMPROVEMENTS IN THEATER NUCLEAR WEAPONS." NEVERTHELESS, HE ADDED, "I REMAIN CONCERNED ABOUT POTENTIAL COUNTERS TO CRUISE MISSILE IN SOVIET INVENTORY....AS PRECISE ONE-FOR-ONE COUNTER FOR SS-20, IT JUST DOESN'T MEET BILL. IT WOULDN'T IN NEGOTIATING TERMS, AND IT DOESN'T IN DETERRENCE OR WAR-FIGHTING TERMS. WE'VE GOT TO LOOK AT WHOLE HOST OF POTENTIAL OPTIONS FOR MODERNIZING OUR THEATER NUCLEAR CAPABILITIES: BALLISTIC, AIR-BREATHING, ONSHORE, AND OFF-UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 04 STATE 137712

SHORE. I'D LIKE TO SEE MORE EMPIRICAL DATA BEFORE I BECOME AN ADVOCATE OF ANY SINGLE SOLUTION OR MIX."

4. ROBERT KAISER OF WASHINGTON POST SAID SENATOR MC GOVERN RELEASED DENUNCIATION OF BRZEZINSKI YESTERDAY, WHILE SENATOR BYRD GAVE TOUGH SPEECH ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS IMPLICITLY SUPPORTING BRZEZINSKI'S RECENT STATEMENTS. MC GOVERN SAID U.S. SHOULD PURSUE DETENTE, WHICH HE DEFINED AS PART OF SOVIET AND AMERICAN MUTUAL INTERESTS THAT COVERS "FEW AREAS SUCH AS ARMS CONTROL TO AVOID MUTUAL EXTINCTION" AND RETARD NUCLEAR PROLIFERATION WITHOUT FEELING COUNTRY ALSO HAD TO "LOVE RUSSIANS." MC GOVERN SAID HE THOUGHT THIS VIEW WAS SHARED BY VANCE, WARNKE, AND YOUNG. "THEY ARE NOT, APPARENTLY, VIEWS OF MR. BRZEZINSKI," MC GOVERN SAID. BYRD, MEANWHILE, SAID SOVIET UNION HAD RAISED SERIOUS DOUBTS, BY ITS RECENT BEHAVIOR, ABOUT ITS WILLINGNESS TO ADHERE TO NEW SALT AGREEMENT. HE CALLED ON CARTER ADMINISTRATION TO PROCEED AT ONCE WITH CONSTRUCTION AND DEPLOYMENT OF NEUTRON WEAPONS UNLESS SOVIETS OFFER QUID PRO QUO IN RETURN FOR U.S. ABSTENTION FROM BUILDING THESE WEAPONS. CHRISTOPHER

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: ARMS, MISSILES, PRESS SUMMARIES, REGIONAL DEFENSE ORGANIZATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 31 may 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 jan 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978STATE137712
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: JPMPOPE:PC
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780228-0126
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t1978052/aaaaabcx.tel
Line Count: 157
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: bebbba96-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN ACDA
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 29 mar 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: N/A
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2570605
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: MAY 31 ROUNDUP: PRESS ITEMS OF ARMS CONTROL INTEREST LONDON FOR AMB/EX, SOFIA FOR AMBASSADOR
TAGS: PARM, SOPN, US, UR
To: GENEVA USSALTTWO
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/bebbba96-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014